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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for controlling access to data in a distributed computer system. Distributed Token Manager (DTM) is a system-level service that coordinates read/write access of data objects (tokens) in a multi-process and multi-threaded environment. The DTM ensures that at any given time either: 1) One or more client processes or threads currently have read access rights to the data object, and no client processes or threads currently have write access rights to the data object; or 2) One client processes or thread currently has write access to the data object and no other client processes or threads currently have read or write access rights to the data object. DTM also ensures that such coordination works smoothly even in the case of process/machine/network failure.